

Veterans of WWII. Andy Kyle has lived an adventurous life full of courage, honor, and spirit all throughout his 95 years. In East Texas he is known as an arrowhead collector, donating the majority of his finds to the Sam Houston Regional Library. He and his late wife Kay were married for nearly 50 years with two daughters, Andrea and Libby.

Andy holds a very distinguished wartime record for his service during WWII. Because he was over the age for pilot school he went to the Army Air Corps for mechanic training completing a 2½ and a half year program in only 6 months. Soon thereafter he became the Crew Chief on a C-47 Dakota transport plane. He served as Crew Chief for 2 years during combat operations in North Africa, Sicily, Italy, England, and France.

As a member of the 50th Troop Carrier Squadron, Andy took on the role of dropping paratroopers and supplies into the war zone. Oftentimes this meant carrying flammable gasoline. One of Andy's great feats was flying 55-gallon drums of gasoline to the East coast of Italy to resupply African American pilots.

The 50th Troop also participated in the infamous invasion of Normandy on D-Day where his plane dropped fully geared paratroopers to the drop zone in France. It was during the Battle of the Bulge that Andy's squadron received the most hits. Of the 13 planes, 6 were lost in trying to aid the Allied Forces. It was a costly victory for the Allies as well as a personal loss for Andy who lost his brother-in-law JG and his other friend Junior Price. Andy still carries pictures of the monument erected in their honor, showing what a caring and honorable soul he is.

Madam Speaker, Andy is one of our many veterans who gave so much to honor our country by serving in a time of war. It is because of his courage and dedication to the United States that we, the Second District of Texas, honor him today.

THE PRINCIPLES OF THE OATH AND LAW OF THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 2010

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the principles of the Oath and Law of the Boy Scouts of America. This year marks the Centennial Celebration of the founding of the Boy Scouts of America. On February 8th, 2010 the Penn's Woods Council will be promoting "The Rededication to the Principles of the Scout Oath and Law Ceremony" at the County Courthouses in Pennsylvania's Bedford, Blair, Cambria, Somerset, and Indiana Counties.

The Oath and Law of the Boy Scouts bind the 55 million alumni of the organization at all levels of participation. Among these alumni: lawyers, doctors, industrialists, educators, labor leaders, military leaders, astronauts, and Presidents of the United States. The principles of the Oath and Law propelled them to the tops of their professions, and in some cases to the stars. The Oath expects Scouts to be patriotic, obedient, generous, and upstanding. Indeed, the law requires them to be: trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind,

obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent. These principles make good scouts, and they make good citizens.

And that is the greatest legacy of 100 years of the Scout Law and Oath. As Scouts learn the Law and Oath, repeat them, adopt the principles within them, and live them, they learn at the same time how to be good Americans. The accomplishments of many of our citizens drew on the timeless virtues they developed as Scouts. Such a record of good work deserves another 100 years. I applaud the Boy Scouts of America for their excellent virtues and their success in living them. I commend the Penn's Woods Council for its work in central Pennsylvania. I hope they continue to contribute to our country for years to come.

HONORING CLAUDE LAVAL III

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 2010

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Claude Laval upon his retirement as the Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Central Valley Business Incubator. Mr. Laval will be honored on Thursday, December 10, 2009.

Mr. Claude Laval was born and raised in Fresno, California. Upon his graduation from Fresno High School, he attended and graduated from Stanford University. After returning to the Central Valley, Mr. Laval had a calling to help develop the greater Fresno area. Mr. Laval established the Claude Laval Corporation over thirty years ago. The company has become a worldwide leader in water technology with a strong reputation for supplying water filtration equipment around the world and leading the company into a range of industrial, commercial and agricultural markets. He currently serves as Chairman of Claude Laval Corporation, while his daughter, Melinda Laval, serves as President.

In addition to his responsibilities with his own business, Mr. Laval has served as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Central Valley Business Incubator (CVBI) since inception in 1996. The mission of CVBI is to nurture and develop entrepreneurs through an integrated network of incubation and business development partners providing access to comprehensive services aimed at creating sustainable high growth ventures. Under Mr. Laval's leadership, CVBI has created over two thousand five hundred jobs, raised millions of dollars in start-up capital and hundreds of students have completed various entrepreneur training programs offered by the organization.

In March 2007, the Claude Laval Water and Energy Technology (WET) Incubator was established under the CVBI umbrella. The WET Incubator was designed to establish the Central Valley as a world wide leader in water and energy innovation. With almost three years into the project, the WET Incubator houses five on-site members and has been very successful in its endeavors. Finally, Mr. Laval is also serving as the Chair of the International Center for Water Technology (ICWT). ICWT was established to provide education and research to assist in developing innovative solutions and technologies to improve water use efficiency.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Claude Laval for his years of dedicated service to the Central Valley Business Incubator and business and water leadership in the greater Fresno area. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. Laval many years of continued success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHRISTOPHER P. CARNEY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 2010

Mr. CARNEY. Madam Speaker, on Tuesday, February 2, I was unable to cast my vote on three suspension bills.

Had I been present, I would like the RECORD to reflect that I would have voted:

"yes" on rollcall Vote 26; "yes" on rollcall vote 27; and "yes" on rollcall vote 28.

TRIBUTE TO SPECIAL AGENT RALPH BLINCOE

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 2010

Mr. COBLE. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Special Agent Ralph Blincoe, Deputy Director, Management and Administration, of the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS), who will retire from that agency on February 27, 2010, after 28 years of highly distinguished service.

Mr. Blincoe began his career as a Special Agent in 1982 with the then-named Naval Investigative Service (NIS) after graduating cum laude from Guilford College in Greensboro, NC. After being selected for and completing the first NIS special agent basic class to graduate from the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center's Criminal Investigator Training Program, Mr. Blincoe assumed his first duty assignment in San Diego, CA. While there, he served on the narcotics squad and, became dedicated to investigating procurement fraud matters. Mr. Blincoe was the first NCIS case agent to work a Group I undercover fraud operation with the FBI code-named "Sandfish," which resulted in the conviction of multiple contractors and naval personnel for kickbacks and bribery. In 1986, Mr. Blincoe was short-toured from his assignment in Hawaii and transferred to the first of three NCIS Headquarters tours to become the co-case agent on Operation Iron Eagle, a massive effort focused upon corruption and irregularities committed by members of Seal Team 6, resulting in numerous indictments and convictions of civilians and military members including famed Navy Seal Richard Marcinko. For his efforts, Mr. Blincoe received a Navy Special Act Award and the Department of Defense Inspector General's Award for Investigative Excellence.

Following Supervisory Special Agent tours at NCISRA Washington, D.C., and Jacksonville, FL, Mr. Blincoe was reassigned as the Supervisory Special Agent at Rota, Spain. Mr. Blincoe believes his three years in Spain were amongst the best of his life due to the excellent staff, great work, and close working relationships he developed with the Spanish law